



GOVERNOR'S COORDINATING OFFICES

Community Initiatives • Service & Volunteerism • Performance Improvement
Crime Prevention, Youth, & Victim Services • Small, Minority, & Women Business Affairs
Banneker-Douglass Museum • Volunteer Maryland • Deaf & Hard of Hearing

Restitution Workgroup Meeting

March 29, 2022 | 11:00am

Virtual Meeting Location - meet.google.com/osu-hedb-knt

Agenda

- Welcome and Tech Tip Overview
- Goals and Objectives
 - Understand existing restitution collection infrastructure through the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services.
 - Identify and discuss action items for the Restitution Workgroup to prioritize over the next 6-9 months.
- Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) Restitution Overview
 - Karen Darby, Coordinator, Victim Services (DPSCS)
 - When the victim contacts the Victim Services Unit (VCU), VCU checks Victim Information Notification Everyday (VINE) and Offender Case Management System (OCMS) for the date of release.
 - VINE is confidential, no cost, automated, anonymous, and can be accessed through a phone number or internet. VINE provides dates of upcoming events in relation to offenders and cases.
 - Offender Case Management System (OCMS) informs the Victim Services Unit as the agent of record and the office location.
 - OCMS has victim notification letters and provides notifications for restitution payments and due dates.
 - Benefits allow safety, information, piece of mind, knowledge, planning and empowerment for victims.



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- Once a victim contacts Victim Services, the court order is verified through case search for accuracy of restitution.
- When the payments are made, and the correct address is provided for the victim, the process runs smoothly
 - Payments are made every third Saturday of the month.
 - The victim will receive payments several weeks after.
- Open Discussion
 - DPSCS conducts extensive research and contacts the courts to retrieve victim's and information.
 - The Department of Parole and Probation is currently working with DoIT to accept other methods of payment (electronic payments with debit/credit cards). Money orders are the only available method of payment.
 - Priorities to consider:
 - Assist for access to MVA
 - Creating and maintaining an interagency restitution database for both juvenile & adult offenders collection rates.
 - Address the lack of consequence for neglecting to pay restitution. The day that restitution is assigned, offenders neglect payment due to lack of threat.
 - Victims tend to care more about the principle of payment and to make the situation just, it isn't necessarily about the money.
 - Creation of a simple database to retrieve victim's addresses, and allow them access to edit.
 - Allow access to MVA.
 - Child support takes primary obligation and restitution follows as a second obligation above other dues and debts.
- Justice Reinvestment Act - Performance Incentive Grant Fund Opportunities
- Next Steps
 - Next workgroup meeting is estimated for May, 2022.